

NI Bulletin

A Publication of Numismatics International Inc.



July 2020

Board of Governors

Chairman & Past-President:	James Terry
President:	Howard Ford
Vice President:	Joseph Kunnappally
Secretary:	Christopher Carson
Treasurer:	Don Douglas
Director at Large:	John Stich

All past Presidents are members of the Board of Governors.

Appointed Staff

NI Bulletin

Editor Emeritus: Marvin L. Fraley
Editor: Joseph Uphoff
 norenxaq@san.rr.com
Article Editor: Alan Luedeking
Index Editor: Christopher D. Carson

Membership Chairman

John Christian
 P.O. Box 570842
 Dallas, TX 75357-0842
 membership@numis.org

Librarian, NI Library

David Gracey
 PO Box 570842
 Dallas, TX 75357-0842
 librarian@numis.org

Auction Manager, NI Bid Sales

P.O. Box 570842
 Dallas, TX 75381-0521
 auctions@numis.org

Publications Chairman

John Vandigriff

Curator, NI Reference Collection

Book Sales

booksales@numis.org

For information about Numismatics International, please see the website at: www.numis.org
 For comments or questions, please contact by email to membership@numis.org or mail inquiries to:

Numismatics International
 P.O. Box 570842
 Dallas, TX 75357-0842

Objectives of Numismatics International

Numismatics International is a non-profit educational organization. Its Objectives are: to encourage and promote the science of numismatics by specializing in areas and nations other than the United States of America; to cultivate fraternal relations among collectors and numismatic students; to encourage and assist new collectors; to foster the interest of youth in numismatics; to stimulate and advance affiliations among collectors and kindred organizations; and to acquire, share, and disseminate knowledge.

Membership Fees: Full Membership (Paper and Digital) \$30 per year. Digital Only Membership \$15 per year. Life Time Membership, \$300.00 one-time payment. Membership fees are payable by mail: Numismatics International, P.O. BOX 570842, Dallas, TX 75357-0842 or via PayPal at: membership@numis.org.

ISSN: 0197-3088 Copyright 2019

Numismatics International, P.O. Box 570842, Dallas, TX USA 75357-0842

Numismatics International Bulletin

Vol. 55

July 2020

Number 4

Table of Contents

Erik Hodge

Merchant Countermarked Dollars in Wales?.....82

Robert Ronus

A German Taler with Both Julian and Gregorian Dates.....95

Michael T. Shutterly

The Jesus Christ Solidus of Justinian II.....100

As Britain began the process of industrialisation, businesses placed their marks on various coins. Our first article discusses the history of one such endeavor and the countermarks it used on Spanish coins.

We then shift to a coin that was influenced by the change in the calendar proposed by Pope Gregory XIII in 1582 and its gradual adaptation throughout Europe. This item was minted during the transition between the two systems.

We conclude with an important Byzantine coin showing the image of Christ for the first time.

As usual, all submissions welcome.

Joseph Uphoff

Editor

Merchant Countermarked Dollars in Wales?

Eric. Hodge NI#2784

In 2001, Spink published, for the British Numismatic Society, a book by Harrington E. Manville entitled, *Tokens of the Industrial Revolution – foreign silver coins countermarked for use in Great Britain c 1787 – 1828*, (Manville), (winner of the 2002 book prize of the International Association of Professional Numismatists.)

This book gives excellent biographical and historical information on most of the countermarked silver coins listed. There are, however, some that are noted as “unknown issuers” and others where their location is given as “tentative”.

The following notes are to draw attention to new information that may shed light onto two of these issues where details are scant.

The first is shown on page 230 of Manville, under type 114. There is only one known specimen, now in the Birmingham City Museum, having an excellent pedigree coming from the Bowles collection in 1909. The mark is HCTC°, in two slightly different forms - one in a rectangle - on a 1795 FM Mexico City Spanish 8 reales (dollar). There is no value given.³⁵

One of the many men on whose backs Richard Arkwright climbed to fame was John Smalley, a liquor merchant and house painter from Preston, Lancaster, who out of his slim capital, helped to finance the original water frame in 1767 -8. Arkwright, however, wanted richer patrons, and in 1771 he found them in Samuel Need of Nottingham (1718-1787) and Jedediah Strutt of Derby (1726-1797), two prosperous hosiery manufacturers. In partnership with them, as well as Smalley, he set up the famous Cromford Mill.' (See Manville pp 203-207.)

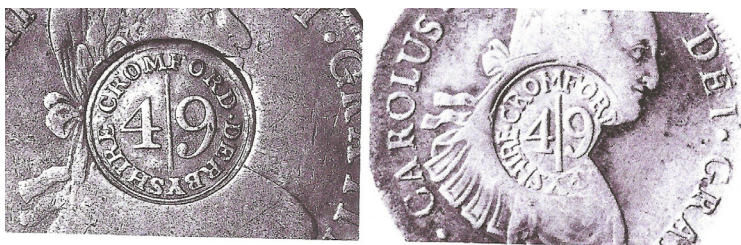


Fig 1. Cromford, Derbyshire. 4/9 genuine and false

In 1775 Arkwright laid plans for an all-embracing carding and roving machine patent, covering every stage of the spinning process. He foresaw great prospects and wanted to deny the benefits to his partners, especially Smalley.

In 1776 the carding patent was witnessed and Arkwright determined that the time had come to rid himself of Smalley. To this end Arkwright had already sought legal opinion, which was not in his favour.' Smalley showed spirit and resisted Arkwright's early derisory offer for his share in the business. Finally in 1777 Smalley accepted £3,202-16s-5½d plus interest at 5% until payment had been completed. In addition Smalley was to receive £100 each month until the expiry of the earlier spinning machine patent (granted in 1769) in 1783. In all he received exactly £10,751.

Although Smalley had agreed not to 'set up Work and carry on any Machine Engine or other Device to infringe upon the Right Granted by the ... Patent', the spring of 1777 found him at Holywell in Flintshire, North Wales, where on a stream already used for industrial ventures, and reputed like that at Cromford never to freeze, he set up a spinning mill.³ Some of the ventures, prior to Smalley's arrival, proving the claims for the Holywell Stream, included a tilting mill, iron-ore mill, lead works, steel wire mill, paper mill, corn mill, snuff mill, brass battering mill, smelting mill and a pin mill.⁴

Smalley's first mill, of three storeys with a llarge water wheel 15 feet high and 5 feet wide with a fall of water of 11 feet 6 inches,' was built on land sub-let from a local, Mrs. Alice Chambers, and Smalley, with his 23 year old son Christopher, formed a partnership with her son. John. Smalley probably brought spinners from Enfland to work the mill: at a later date the bulk of the employees were English.⁶

We can assume thatn Smalley incorporated sound technology when he began spinning at Holywell; and we know that he enhanced the quality of his 'twist' (see below) on discovering that the skins of Welsh mountain sheep provided a superior leather for his spinning rollers.t

John Smalley died at Holywell aged 53 in January 1782 eight months before Arkwright had completed his plans to take legal action against him as well as the other infringers of the 1769 spinning machine patent.³ He was buried at Whiteford, Flintshire, where his epitaph states that he was the founder of the Holywell Cotton Industry.⁸ His colleague Chambers, who must have soon retired from the business, had gone bankrupt two years earlier. Smalley's wife Elizabeth and son Christopher took over the works at a propitious moment, just when the first great cotton boom was beginning.

In 1783 and 1785 two more mills were built at Holywell. The Liverpool ?millwright Robert Williams, who visited them in November 1785, found 'two of the finest mills in England', one financed by 'Esquire Douglas of Manchester' and the other by '(William) Harrison of London'. 'This William Harrison was the son of John, the inventor of the marine chronometer, using some of the Government's prize money to build his mill. He had spent half his life assisting his father in the chronometer endeavour, and was now able to put his skills to use in the construction of mill machinery.'⁹ It is quite clear how great was the cotton trade's demand at this time for skilled machine makers. John Rennie, the civil engineer, observed in 1791, 'In respect of workmen, the Cotton Trade had deprived this place (London) of many of the best Clock-Makers

and Mathematical Instrument Makers, so much so that they can scarcely be had to do ordinary business.¹⁰ We shall hear more of a skilled machine maker later in our story.

It was about 1787 when the cotton trade's first big merger took place, when the mills of Smalley, Douglas and Harrison combined together to form the Holywell Cotton Twist Company.' The partners in this new business included a number of prominent businessmen and manufacturers, among them William and John Douglas of Manchester and Pendleton, Daniel and John Whittaker of Manchester, Ann, John and Jonathan Dumbell of Warrington¹¹ John Harrison of London and one other important player who we shall meet later.

This word 'twist', mentioned in the new company name, crops up later in our narrative. The great achievement of Arkwright's water-frame was, that by the twist it gave to the thread, it made it strong enough for warp. This term refers to the threads extending lengthways in the loom, through which the weft threads are passed, in a shuttle, side to side. Warp was accordingly known as 'twist' or 'hard yarn'.¹²

The two new mills, known as the Upper and Lower Mills, built in 1783 and 1785 respectively, were each six storeys high, and it is characteristic of the times that the first (which had 198 sash windows, 'which nightly exhibit a most glorious illumination,' and was worked by a water wheel 20 feet high and 7 feet wide, with a fall of water of 20 feet), was completed within six weeks. The concern was now important enough to cause some uneasiness to Arkwright himself. In 1787 we find Arkwright junior asking his fellow manufacturer Samuel Oldknow (then on a visit to Wales) 'I hope you have seen the Mills at Holywell and will give me an acct.'¹³

The Holywell Cotton Twist Company continued to expand. Early in 1790 a fourth mill was built, rather smaller than the second and third, and called the Crescent Mill. There was one anxious moment when the credit of the company seems to have been questioned. This was in 1793 when a number of Manchester men, including William Douglas, approached the Bank of England to guarantee the good name of Jones, Barker & Co., the most important of the Manchester banks (later Jones, Loyd & Co.) In June of that same year the Stockport Bank failed and with it two of the five partners comprising it. These were John Dumball, who was described as 'of Holywell, banker dealer.' Although the trustees of the Stockport Bank managed things so well that ultimately a dividend of twenty shillings in the pound was paid, it was found necessary for the Dumballs to publish the fact that they had long been dissociated

from the
Holywell
Cotton
Twist
Company.

14

It is these
initials,
HCTC^o,
that I
believe
may be
the ones
on the



Fig 2 .HCT Company

countermarked dollar. By 1795, the date of the host coin, these four mills employed 1,225 persons, including 100 men, 500 women and children, 300 or 400 parish apprentices, (housed on the spot with separate accommodation for boys and girls that were whitewashed once a year and fumigated three times a week with tobacco smoke!⁵) and between 200 and 300 outworkers in neighbouring parishes.¹⁵ Eventually, with a wage bill of this scale, Douglas and Smalley found it convenient to set up as bankers themselves, at Holywell, sometime before 1822.¹⁶ The latest reports of the bank are dated 1838, when its collapse involved the misappropriation of the subscription money collected for the families in Mold, Flintshire, bereaved by the Argoed Colliery Disaster.¹⁷ The Holywell Cotton Twist Company is reported as failed in 1842¹⁸, only to rise again, however, as woollen mills, which were still in operation up to at least 1969.¹⁹

Manville, p 230, states 'It is most doubtful that the piece was a circulating token'. This is probably correct, for this example, also states that 'it was probably a test or trial piece of a maker's mark.' I think this is doubtful, otherwise why waste a good silver dollar. This coin was possibly retained by the company as a memento. As mentioned earlier, I believe that the Bowles provenance is an important indication that the mark is unlikely to be a concoction, (though nothing is conclusive in this area of numismatics) and if a test or trial piece, then a trial for a subsequently issued, valid, merchant countermark. Hopefully more examples will come to light, showing the one variety of the mark actually used.

Only one type of merchant countermarked dollar is known for Lancashire, that of the Cark Cotton Works²⁰. Manville pp 201- 202. Cark was well away from the main Lancashire business centres. The reason that none are known for the large business centre of Manchester seems to lie with the fact that the emergence from trade and manufacture into banking was particularly easy in industrial Lancashire. The ubiquity of the bill of exchange in everyday payments made virtually every business man a banker of sorts, and, for those who became full bankers, a ready-made

network of credit existed which gave to Lancashire banking its distinctive character. Whereas bankers elsewhere supplied local currency primarily by the issue of bearer notes, Lancashire banking circulated mainly bills of exchange and bank drafts. An expanding economy such as that of late eighteenth century Lancashire, in which capital was fully extended, was particularly susceptible to fluctuations in trade. Bearer notes, which were susceptible to theft, could be discredited and spread financial ruin through a single failure, but bills and drafts accumulated security as they circulated.¹²¹ It is not surprising that the bill should have had a wide currency in the first centre of large-scale industry. What is remarkable is the high velocity (attested by the large number of endorsements) which its circulation attained. What is more remarkable is the extent to which it was used in small transactions. At a time when wage-earning labour was increasing rapidly, the provision of the means of payment was one of the most exacting tasks confronting the employers. Lancashire had evolved a system of credit long before formal banks were established in the north, and when these appeared, their chief function was to extend facilities which had previously been provided by local merchants.²² These circumstances did not extend to north Wales at this time. An interesting sideline worthy of mention at this point in our story, is that of Samuel Oldknow who, as noted previously, visited Holywell in 1787. He had a large muslin empire based at Stockport, south Manchester. He is not known to have issued countermarked dollars, but letters have survived showing the problems he faced in obtaining cash for wages to the extent he was being sent guineas and half guineas by Thos. Evans and Son of Derby, the same bankers who supplied cash to Arkright. Eventually Oldknow over-extended his finances so much that in the depression years of 1793-4 he is known to have issued his own shop notes in payment of wages, so as to avoid the embarrassment of being refused bank credit. These notes circulated amongst local shopkeepers as well as in his own shop and examples survive showing detailed calculations of use and of endorsement.²³

Though no merchant countermarked dollars are hitherto known for Wales, there are records of other token issues. The issue of copper, silver and even paper tokens, as with Oldknow, was another device adopted towards the end of the century by firms which had to pay out large sums in wages, examples being John Wilkinson the Ironmaster²⁴ and Thomas Williams of the Parys Mine Company,²⁵ whose copper coins were described by a contemporary writer as 'the most beautiful coin or token in use...as it exceeds in elegance any which has been yet emitted', and then goes on to report that 'Vast quantities of these coins are counterfeited at Birmingham, and may be had by public order in any number.'²⁶ However there is correspondence, dated September 1796, between Matthew Boulton and Thomas Williams, about the activities of a Dr. Solomon of Liverpool, who wanted Boulton to strike counterfeits of the Anglesey token coinage, and whose plans Boulton revealed to Williams.²⁷ A directory of 1790 refers to the North Wales Bank at Holywell. This latter is probably identical with the Flintshire Bank, which we hear of as issuing silver and copper tokens in 1811.^{28,29} Si there are well-known records of tokens issued in north Wales at this time, therefore the likelihood of countermarked dollars is not unreasonable. Linking this to the connections between Arkwright, a countermarked dollar issuer, possibly in the 1790's (Manville p 204), and Smalley, then the dollar marked HCTC^o could quite easily have belonged to the Holywell Cotton Twist Company. Only the discovery of original company or personal records could constitute confirmatory proof.

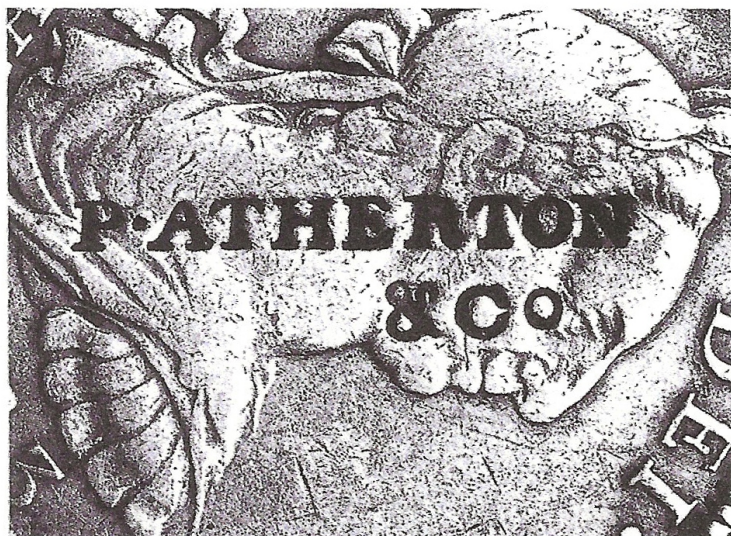


Fig. 3 P. Atherton & Co.

However there is one more item that makes this allocation more possible and certainly more intriguing.

Our second token is in Manville pp. 96-97, under type 49 and is listed as 'P(eter?) Atherton & Company, (Glasgow?)'. There are three coins known, Mexico City FM 1773,³⁴ FM 1786 and Lima IJ 1789, where the mark is 'P. ATHERTON' with under '& Co'. The Lima coin countermark appears to have been cancelled. Manville goes on to say 'The punching resembles a makers' mark, similar to ones stamped on metalwork. Lacking a location and denomination, the mark has usually been classed as 'problematic' or 'unknown'. However, a name fitting this mark, both in time and place, has now been traced and is offered as a possible issuer... Peter Atherton & Co., cotton-twist spinners, wareroom, 1st flat, Trades Land (1787) Peter Atherton & Co., Holywell cotton warehouse, Trades Land (1789)...the laconic nature of the mark. lacking location and valuation, suggests an early date when marks

were few and had not been further refined...It seems fair to assume that the Atherton mark was meant to designate a true tradesman's token, and was not merely a maker's mark haphazardly punched on three or more dollars, since surely copper halfpennies or other less valuable pieces of metal would have served nicely as test pieces,' The intriguing aspect of the above is the word 'twist' in the first listed name, and Holywell in the second. Could this be the same Peter Atherton that we find in Holywell north Wales?

The success of the Smalleys drew another adventurer to the Holywell stream. This was one Peter Atherton whose company advertised in 1789 for "A Great Number of Good Cotton Workers, particularly Young Women, and Boys, and Girls." This company seems to have met with little success for Pennant (writing in 1796 about the history of the area,) makes no mention of it. It is possible, however, that, from the death of John Smalley until the reorganisation of the firm in 1790 the company was known as Peter Atherton & Co., for this was the title of the advertisers of the Holywell Corn Mills in September, 1788, a property which was later to be offered for sale by the Cotton Twist Company.³⁴

As mentioned earlier, there was one more important partner in the merge to form the Holywell Cotton Twist Company and that partner was Peter Atherton. We hear that he joined one of the partnerships in July 1785 when the Douglasses, Mrs. Smalley and the Manchester merchant Daniel Whittaker each assigned to him a fifth share in 'the lately erected mill' and other property.⁷ To Atherton must also go the credit for designing the second generation of spinning mills incorporating either a projection at the front or wings at each end, presumably to cater for relocation of the water wheel otterater to assist in transmitting the power to a greater number of machines. The later Holywell mills had projections and were much copied.

Atherton was proud of his skills and on one occasion told the steam engine builders Boulton and Watt 'Instead of Esquiring me call me Cotton Machinery Manufacturer.' He was one of the men

who followed in the footsteps of the famous inventors, refining their ideas and patenting several machines of his own.³⁰

Atherton also appears as a partner with Philips and Lee in the Salford Engine Twist Company (that would twist again), whom he leaves in 1794. He then establishes himself in a new and large steam-spinning mill in Liverpool, until his death in 1799.¹⁴ It more than likely that he was the Peter Atherton of Warrington to whom Arkwright and John Smalley had applied in the days of struggle for help in constructing the water-frame, only to have their request refused because of the poverty of Arkwright's appearance. Later the same day, however, Atherton is said to have lent them a smith and watch-tool maker to build the heavier part of the machine.³¹ (Another back that Arkwright climbed on?)

We have one further piece of information concerning the name Atherton & Co., and that comes from the Colquhoun survey of water-powered spinning mills in England, Scotland, Wales, and the Isle of Man for 1787-8. Patrick Colquhoun lists under Flintshire 'Atherton & Co., Holywell 3 mills'.³²

We, therefore, have the possibility that both these marks, HCTC^o and P. Atherton & C^o were made in the same location, about the same time and for the same purpose. As Manville points out, both marks resemble marker's marks and neither have a value, which would indicate an early issue. It is also interesting that in Manville p. 96 it states, 'The company Peter Atherton & Co.,) is not recorded... nor in any of Walter McFeat's Glasgow directories from 1799 onwards,...' the year of our Peter Atherton's death.³³

It is intriguing to wonder if these north Wales entrepreneurs got the idea of countermarking dollars from Arkwright, or if, in fact, the Arkwrights, like so many of their ideas and patents, obtained the idea from them, and was able to develop it to its final and useful conclusion. From the dates of the known countermarked coins the latter seems more probable.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I have been helped in my research by many people, but would especially like to thank Chris Aspin, author, for the seed of the idea in his book, 'The Water Spinners'. I also thank Elizabeth Pettitt of Flintshire Records Office and Simon Gotts, Information Librarian, Flintshire County Dcouncil for not only supplying requested information but additional details from their own records.

I would also like to thank Mr. Harrington Manville for reading this article and offering some relevant and thought provoking ideas.

REFERENCES.

1. Dodd, A.H. The Industrial Revolution in North Wales, 1953. p. 283.
- 2 Fitton, R.S., The Arkwrights 'Spinners of fortune' ,1989, p. 39.
- 3 Ibid.,40-46.
- 4 Foulkes, Edward J., The Cotton-Spinning Factories of Flintshire 1777- 1866, in the Flintshire Historical Society Transactions Vol. 21, 1964, p. 91.
5. Williams, Huw, When Cotton was King, The Story of the Holywell Cotton Industry, 1777-1841, 1971,p. 2.
6. Dodd, op. cit.p.,284
- 7 Aspin, Chris., The Water Spinners, 2003,p. 169.
- 8 Williams, op. cit.,p. 6 note 11.
9. Aspin, op. cit.,p. 38
- 10 Lee, C.H., A Cotton Enterprise,1972,p. 17
11. Foulkes, op. cit.,p. 92
- 12 Unwin, George, et al., Samuel Oldknow and the Arkwrights, 1924, p. 69
13. Ibid.,p. 94-96
- 14 Foulkes, op. cit.,p. 93
- 15 Dodd, op. cit.,p. 285.
- 16 Pressnell, L. S., Country Banking in the Industrial Revolution , 1956, p. 29.
17. Foulkes, op. cit.,p. 94.

July 2020

- 18 . Dodd, A. H., The Beginnings of Banking in North Wales, in *Economica* Vol. 16, March 1926, p. 24.
- 19 Richards, P S., The Holywell Textile Mills, Flintshire, in *Industrial Archaeology*, Vol. 6, No 1, February 1969,p. 32.
- 20 Hodge, E. C., Cark Cotton Works, in *Spink Numismatic Circular*, April 2001,pp., 93-95.
- 21 Pressnell, op. cit.,79-20.
- 22 Ashton, T.S., The Bill of Exchange and Private Banks in Lancashire, 1790-1830, in *Economic History Review* 1945 vol., XV pt., 1 &2,pp. 26- 28.
- 23 Unwin, op. cit., pp. 178-179
24. Chaloner, WH., John Wilkinson as Note Issuer and Banker, *Seaby's Coin & Medal Bulletin*, December 1948, 550-553
25. National Museum of Wales booklet (compiled by George C. Boon), *Welsh Industrial Tokens and Medals*, 1973, Nos.. 1 and 10.
26. Pennant, Thomas, *The History of the Parishes of Whiteford and Holywell*, 1796, facsimile edition 1988, Clwyd County Council, p. 206.
27. Harris, f.R., *The Copper King*, 1964, p. 112
28. Dodd, 192 6, op. cit., p. 20
- 29 . George C. Boon, *Industry and Trade in Wales: A Numismatic Commentary from the National Museum*, 1971, No., 59.
- 30 Aspin, op. Cit. p. 37.
31. John Aikin and Rev William Enfield, *General Biography or Lives*, 1799, Vol., 1, p. 391.
- 32 Aspin, op. cit.,p. 472. 33 Will of Peter Atherton held at The National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, reference C/ 1822/10 W (i.
34. Illustration reproduced by kind permission of The Trustees of the British Museum. (Printed on 2 mm squared paper).
35. Illustration reproduced from Manville Plate 53 No. 4, by kind permission of Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery.

A GERMAN TALER WITH BOTH JULIAN AND GREGORIAN DATES

Robert Ronus LM#139

Dr. Busso Peus Nachf (of Frankfurt, Germany) had a coin that attracted my attention in their May 2019 auction (Auction 424); a 1698 Burial Taler for Count Heinrich VI of Reuss-Obergreiz (Lot 1425). The biographical data on the reverse has dates in both the Julian and Gregorian calendars.

The counts of Reuss owned lands in Thuringia, in eastern Germany. They had the custom of naming all males in the family Heinrich. They are distinguished by their number, with, as an extreme example, the ruler of the Reuss-Lobenstein branch



Fig 1. Count Heinrich VI of Reuss-Obergreiz

between 1805-24 being Heinrich LIV. To make things more complicated, the Younger Line of Reuss adopted the custom of beginning its numbering afresh with the first male born in each new century. Regardless, Heinrich VI succeeded his father Heinrich the Elder as ruler of the Reuss-Obergreiz branch in 1681 at the age of 32. He already had had a distinguished military career in the service of the the Elector of Brandenburg, the Duke of Brunswick-Luneburg, the King of Spain and the Dutch United Provinces.

He continued his military career after becoming Count. He commanded a regiment of dragoons in the defence of Vienna against the Turks in 1683. He received the order for the first attack on the Turkish camp and carried it out brilliantly. During the battle he apparently remained on horseback for sixteen hours straight. After a few years' rest, he joined the Saxony army for the siege of Mainz, occupied by the French, in 1689, when he was again badly wounded. His services to Saxony in the following years led to his being appointed a Privy Councillor by Elector Augustus the Strong in 1694. In 1697 Augustus sent auxiliary troops to Hungary under Heinrich's command to fight the Turks again. In September the Christian army won a decisive battle over the Turks at Zenta and saved all of Central Europe, but at great cost. One of the sacrifices was Heinrich. In the first attack he was hit by bullets in the forearm and shoulder. Despite pain and loss of blood, he rallied his troops, shouting, "It is now true that people should honestly fight and die gloriously. I will win or die with you. No one shall do anything more than I do!" Eventually the Turks fell into disorder and sought salvation in flight. However, some janissaries firing on their pursuers shot Heinrich in the left thigh and brought down his horse. The badly wounded commander was taken to Szeged Fortress. His wife rushed to his side after receiving the message. After various operations, Count Heinrich VI died on October 11 at midnight at the age of 48. He never received the news that Augustus the Strong (who was also King of Poland) had appointed him Royal Polish Field Marshal in recognition of his valour and achievements.

Heinrich's body, accompanied by his widow and under heavy military guard, was brought from Szeged through Bohemia and Saxony to Greiz, where he arrived on December 22, 1697. Early the following year he was buried in the town church at Greiz. This Burial Taler was struck in memory of the occasion :



Obv.:HENRICUS VI
RUTHENUS (= Reuss)
COM. AC. DN.A. PLAU
(en). DN.IN GR (eiz). CR
(= Kranichfeld). G (era). S
(chleiz).E (t). L (obenstein).
S.R.M. POLON (by his
serene royal majesty of
Poland). Inner legend: ET S
(axony). EL.SAX.
CAMPIMARE_ SCHALL.

GENERALIS (archmarshal general of electoral Saxony). orb
Bewigged and armoured bust



Rev.: INVICTUS
MORIOR (I die
undefeated). over crossed
palm and laurel sprays over
11 lines of biographical
data:NAT:GRAIZ:VARISC
(orum):D.VII:/
AUG:M:DC.XLIX.
HOSTIB (us): IN/
CELEBERR (imo): AD
TIBISC (um): IN/
HUNGAR (ia): PROP (e):
ZENTAM PRAE/ LIO D
1/11 SEPT: M.DC.XCVII.

IAM/ SUPERAT (is) ACCEPTO VULNERE/ MORTIFERO SEQ
(uente). D (ie). 11/21 OCT/ SEGEDINI VITAM PRO/ PATRIA
BEATISS (ime): / ET GLORIOSISS (ime): / REDDIDIT. (Born in

Graiz on 7th August 1649; in the most renowned battle on the Tisza River in Hungary near Zenta on 1 /11 Sept.1697 against enemies now overcome; subsequently succumbed to a deadly wound on 11/21 October at Szeged Fortress; he most blessedly and gloriously gave up his life for his country); at bottom I.L.16 cross moline 98.H. zainhaken (ingot hook) (= Johann Lorenz Holland,mm,1698-1716). AR 45 mm 29.04 g Mint: Dresden Davenport 7306. KM 41. Schmidt/Knab 227. Schulthess-Rechberg 5515.

What is unusual is the two dates, 1/11 September and 11/21 October. This reflects the fact that this part of Germany was transitioning from the old Julian Calendar to the new (actually, not so new) Gregorian Calendar.

In 48 B.C. Julius Caesar introduced a calendar with a year of 365 days and 6 hours or 365.25 days with a regular year of 365 days divided into 12 months and a leap-day (*bissextum*) added after February 23 in the years divisible by 4. However, this Julian year was 0.0078 days longer (11 minutes and 14 seconds) longer than the real solar year since the time between vernal equinoxes was actually 365.2422 days. Every 128.2051 years the Julian calendar moved about one additional day ahead of the sun and the spring equinox. By February 1582 the Julian calendar was about 10 days ahead of the solar year : that year the properly calculated date of the equinox was March 21 while according to the Julian calendar the spring equinox fell a little after midnight on March 11. This had become an increasing problem for the Roman Catholic Church as Easter, which was tied to the calculated spring equinox of the calendar, became earlier and earlier. On February 24 1582, Pope Gregory XIII (1572-1585) issued a papal bull ordering the elimination of this steady movement in the date of the equinox. He established a new calendar in which ten days that had been overcounted since the Council of Nicea (325) had to be withdrawn from the Julian calendar : the day after October 4, 1582 would be October 15, 1582. Only four Catholic countries adopted the new calendar on October 4, 1582: Italy, Spain, Portugal and Poland.

France did after Sunday December 9, 1582, the next day being Monday December 20, 1582, and in Germany the Catholic States switched to the new calendar in 1583, as did parts of Austria. The Protestant States (including Reuss-Greiz) adopted the reform much later, mainly in 1700.

With two calendars being used in Europe, it was necessary to specify which was being used, Julian or Gregorian, sometimes called Old Style and New Style. Thus on Heinrich's Burial Taler, he fought in the battle of Zenta on 1 Sept. (Julian calendar) /11 Sept. (Gregorian calendar) 1697 and died on 11 October (Julian calendar) /21 October (Gregorian calendar).

It is striking coin, whatever the dates.

References:

Davenport, John S.: *German Secular Talers 1600-1700* (Numismatischer Verlag P.N. Schulten, Frankfurt, 1976)

Elsen, Jean: *Western and Eastern Calendars and the Appearance of Dates on Russian Coins* (NI Bulletin, Jan./Feb. 2014)

Nicol, N. Douglas et al: *Standard Catalog of German Coins 1501- Present*, 3rd Edition (Iola, Wisconsin, Krause Publications, 2011)

Schmidt, Berthold & Knab, Carl: *Reussische Münzgeschichte* (Verlag der Numismatischen Gesellschaft zu Dresden 1907)

Schulthess -Rechberg; *Die Ritter von Schulthess-Rechberg'sche Münz-u. Medaillen-Sammlung* (Quartermann Publications, Lawrence, Mass. 1974 reprint of 2-vol. edition of Julius & Albert Erbstein, Dresden 1868-69)

Wikipedia

The Jesus Christ Solidus of Justinian II

Michael T. Shutterly NI#2703



Fig. 1. The gold solidus of Justinian II, portraying the Christ Pantocrator, struck at the Constantinople mint circa 692-695. This coin weighs 4.45 g. Image courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group LLC, www.cngcoins.com

Justinian II was 16 years old when he came to the Byzantine throne in 685. He was a sincerely pious man and a strong and energetic ruler who aspired to greatness, but sadly, he was also a bit insane. His huge tax levies, land reform policies, religious quarrels, forced population relocations that amounted to “ethnic cleansing,” and unsuccessful wars eventually antagonized every segment of Byzantine society. In 695 Justinian’s general Leontios launched a revolt: Justinian was quickly deposed, his nose and part of his tongue were cut off, and he was exiled to the remote city of Cherson, in what is now Crimea.

In 692 Justinian had convened the Quinisext (“Fifth-Sixth”) Church Council to tie up loose ends remaining from the Fifth and Sixth Councils. The only bishops who attended came from the East; the Western bishops, including the Pope, rejected the Council’s decrees. It banned the traditional portrayal of Christ as the Paschal Lamb and instead required that he be shown only in

human form. Pope Sergius I responded by ordering that the hymn *Agnus Dei* — “Lamb of God” — be sung at Mass; Justinian countered with a new gold solidus, whose obverse portrays Jesus Christ with the inscription *IhS CRISTOS REX REGNANTIUM* (“Jesus Christ King of Kings”). Justinian moved his own portrait to the reverse, where he stands holding a cross potent on three steps, with the inscription *D IUSTINIANVS SERVVS CHRISTI* (“Lord Justinian the Servant of Christ”).

This was the first time that a portrait of Christ appeared on a coin. Justinian used the image of Christ Pantocrator (“Ruler Over All”) to signify that Justinian himself, as well as his Empire and the entire world, were all ultimately subject to the power of God.

This coin influenced events beyond the Byzantine Empire. Until this time, the Muslim Arabs had been content to use Byzantine gold coins in their realm, but those depicting the Christian God were unacceptable to them. Soon after Justinian began minting his “Christ” solidus, the Umayyad Caliph Abd al-Malik ibn Marwan began issuing gold dinars which were entirely epigraphic, that is, their designs displayed no images, but instead consisted entirely of words (including Muslim prayers). Thirteen centuries later, seven Muslim and two Christian countries, once under Islamic rule, still use the “dinar” as their currency, although the modern coins (other than special commemorative issues) no longer contain gold.

